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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/720,930	11/24/2003	Samuel Sidney Sanders	534-P0001	5244
23334	7590	11/15/2004	EXAMINER	
FLEIT, KAIN, GIBBONS, GUTMAN, BONGINI & BIANCO P.L. ONE BOCA COMMERCE CENTER 551 NORTHWEST 77TH STREET, SUITE 111 BOCA RATON, FL 33487			CAO, CHUN	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2115	

DATE MAILED: 11/15/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/720,930

Applicant(s)

SANDERS, SAMUEL SIDNEY

Examiner

Chun Cao

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 September 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 5-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 5-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 14-27 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) ^e | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>11/24/03</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 5-27 are presented for examination. Claims 1-4 and 28-37 are canceled.

Specification

2. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed. The current title is imprecise.
3. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: on page 30, "FIG. 2000" should be --FIG. 20--. The entire specification is needed to review.
Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 5 and 7-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Chan (Chan), U.S. patent no. 4,500,933.

As per claim 5, Chan discloses a circuit array module [fig. 1; an universal interface unit] comprising:

a module body comprising a processor [12, fig. 1; col. 3, line 4];

a configuration storage [14, fig. 1] for storing a plurality of configuration definitions [col. 2, lines 15-17; col. 3, lines 38-41, 50-53], wherein at least two of the plurality of configuration definitions define different configurations for the processor and

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wherein each configuration definition within the plurality of configuration definitions is associated with a specified identity [col. 3, lines 38-41, 50-55];

an attribute detector for determining an attribute [pins connection] of the module body [col. 3, lines 31-35; emphasis add “detecting pins configuration base on connection of jumper 24”]; and

a configuration selector for selecting a selected configuration definition from the plurality of configuration definitions depending on the attribute [col. 2, lines 5-20; col. 3, lines 35-57].

As per claim 7, Chan discloses that the attribute detector determines a module type of the module body [col. 3, lines 31-35].

As per claim 8, Chan discloses that the attribute detector determines at least one component that is available within the module body [col. 3, lines 31-49].

As to claims 9 and 10, Chan discloses that the processor comprises at least one of a programmable computer, a microprocessor, a micro-controller, a reduced instruction set computer, a digital signal processor, a field programmable gate array, an analog to digital converter and a digital to analog converter [12, fig. 1; col. 3, lines 4].

As per claim 11, Chan discloses that the module body comprises at least one of a cross-point switch, a memory device, a programmable termination network, user circuit connections, test equipment connections and a wiring interconnect [memory unit 14, fig. 1].

As per claim 12, Chan discloses that the configuration selector receives an attribute query command and transmits, in response to the command, at least one of a

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module identification, a module location, a description of module memory sizes and types, a module performance parameter and a module serial number [col. 3, lines 31-40].

As per claim 13, Chan discloses that a connector for connecting the processor to an adjoining circuit array module [fig. 1; col. 4-20].

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chan (Chan), U.S. patent no. 4,500,933 as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Sekiya et al. (Sekiya). US patent no. 6,484,128.

As per claim 6, Chan fails to disclose a serial number associated with the module body.

Sekiya discloses a serial number associated with the module body [fig. 5; col. 1, lines 51-52; col. 5, line 64-col. 6, line 5].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at time the invention to combine the teachings of Chan and Sekiya because the specify teachings of Sekiya stated above would increase the processing time of Chan's system to determine the compatibility of the system base on the serial number.

Allowable Subject Matter

8. Claims 14-27 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

19. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Smiedt, US patent no. 5,495,531, discloses that a serial number is stored in a read only memory of the module.

Huber, US patent no. 6,304,997, discloses that the circuit modules are interconnected to form a modular circuit array using at least one of the relations.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chun Cao whose telephone number is 571-272-3664. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 7:30 am-4:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas C. Lee can be reached on 571-272-3667. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is 571-272-2100.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chun Cao', with a stylized, cursive script.

Chun Cao

Nov. 10, 2004